Testimony of

Stephen Collins

Greenwich Educator

Before the

Education Committee

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Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

Policies, such as the ones proposed, make teaching in Connecticut, an attractive option. Speaking as a former resident, raised in Connecticut schools, who then moved to another state and has come back to teach because of the attractive opportunities for teaching in Connecticut, it is clear to me that to enhance Teacher, recruitment and retention proactive policies, such as these proposals will help.

Thank you for your time and consideration.